

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church - September 2020

Reminders about returning to worship in the church building

Before you arrive

- Please **stay at home if you feel unwell**.
- If you want a **hot drink** during the service feel free to bring a flask; we are taking the advice to keep the church well ventilated seriously. Equally you are free to bring a **drink of water**. The kitchen will be unavailable.
- Please observe **social distancing** (2m) in the church car park or on the pavement outside the church.
- As you come up the church path, you will see **markers to help you observe social distancing** should you need to queue to come into church. Please use the markers to help you. Two metres is further than **many** of us think! Don't forget an umbrella if it's raining.



- You will need to bring your own **face covering**; everyone entering the building must wear a face mask at all times, unless you have a medical exemption. So please put your face mask on before you come into church. We do have a few emergency disposable masks.
- Please **avoid bringing unnecessary items** to church, for example shopping bags, to avoid possible contamination.
- **Church Bibles and hymn books** will be available on most chair backs for your use, but feel free to bring your own if you prefer.
- If you wish for someone or some situation to be included in the **intercessory prayers**, please contact the preacher or duty steward before the service. Phone numbers can be found in old newsletters.

When you arrive

- You will be greeted by a marshall **at the front door** who will show you into the lobby area when it is safe to do so, observing social distancing.
- In the lobby area you will be invited to **sanitise your hands** and then the marshall there will open the church door and show you into the church.
- In church, the third **marshall will guide you to where to sit**. We want to fill the church from the front. The chairs are spaced for individuals to sit at the correct social distance from one another, so please don't move them. There are some chairs in pairs for people from the same household or bubble to sit together.
- If you want to remove it, please put your **coat** on the back of your chair, but you may wish to keep it on as we will be needing to keep the church **ventilated** during the service.
- The third marshall will check your name off against our **track and trace register**. This information will be kept for 3 weeks and then shredded.



During the service

- Services will take **no longer than 30-45 minutes**.
- **No congregational singing** is currently allowed but there will be music of various sorts at different services. Please refrain from the urge to join in if a familiar hymn tune is played.
- **The preacher and steward** will wear masks to enter and leave the church. Once they are 3 metres plus from you, behind the lectern, which has been moved behind the communion rail, they will be able remove their masks to talk which will aid clarity.
- **Microphones** will be available to the preacher and steward so the loop system should work.
- If the preacher wants to use **service/prayer sheets** they will be distributed to the chairs before the service. At the end of the service please take the sheet away with you or dispose of it in the bin by the door.
- Should you need to use the **toilet** before, during or after the service, please exit by the door nearest the organ and use the accessible toilet directly in front of you. Please then return by a one-way system via the double doors into the corridor leading back to the front door. A marshall will be on hand before and after the service to guide you with this.
- **Should you feel unwell** during the service, there will be water available in bottles for a drink and if you wish to leave the room please go into the coffee lounge where two marshalls will meet you.



At the end of the service

- **We cannot offer refreshments** after the service.
- There will be a basket available for your **collection** by the door on your way out.
- After the service a marshall will guide everyone when to leave, so that there are no bottle necks by the door. You are encouraged to **leave promptly** when directed to.
- Please **sanitise your hands on the way out**.
- Please remember to remain **socially distanced on your way out** of the building.
- **If you, or someone you live with, becomes unwell with Covid symptoms after the service – or you are asked to self-isolate within 14 days after coming to the church building, please contact Andy or Catriona Stoker as a matter of urgency. Tel 0161 487 2010 or email andy.stoker@btinternet.com or cat.stoker@btinternet.com**

